

FACT SHEET



Hastings Ground Water Contamination Site Area-Wide Action Hastings, Nebraska

February 2001

PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMENT PERIOD

EPA will hold a public meeting to provide information on the area-wide proposed plan. The meeting will be held:

**Thursday, March 1, 2001
7:00 p.m.
Central Community College
Hastings Campus
Cedar Fir Room, Dawson Building
East Highway 6
Hastings, Nebraska**

EPA will take comments on the area-wide proposed plan through March 16, 2001. Comments can be made at the public meeting, or sent to EPA at the address listed below:

**Diane Huffman
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of External Programs
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
Fax (913) 551-7066
huffman.diane@epa.gov**

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is releasing a proposed plan to address contaminated ground water at the Hastings Ground Water Contamination Superfund site in Hastings, Nebraska. The proposed plan identifies EPA's preferred method for protecting the public from exposure to contaminated ground water that is not presently being addressed by cleanup actions underway at any of the subsites.

Comments will be taken on the proposed plan through March 16, 2001. After reviewing comments received during the public comment period, EPA, in coordination with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ), will make a decision on the method to address the contaminated ground water. The final decision will be published in a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will also include a summary of EPA's responses to the comments received during the public comment period.

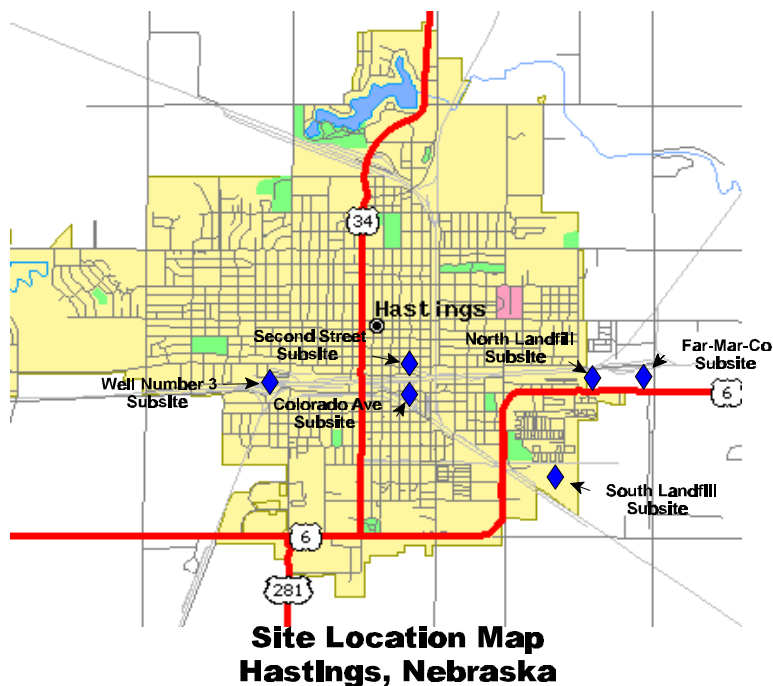
SITE BACKGROUND

EPA began investigating sources of ground water contamination in the Hastings area in 1984 after high levels of contaminants were

found in three municipal wells, used to supply drinking water to the public. The contamination occurred primarily as a result of releases of hazardous substances from a former coal gasification plant, local industries using solvents, and grain storage facilities using grain fumigants. In 1986,

the site was placed on the National Priorities List, a list of sites in the nation eligible for investigation and remediation under the Superfund program.

The Hastings Ground Water Contamination site covers the central industrial area of the city of Hastings and areas outside the city limits. The site has been divided into seven subsites (see map). The seven subsites are Far-Mar-Co, North Landfill, Second Street, Colorado Avenue, Well Number 3, South Landfill, and the Naval Ammunition Depot (NAD). The NAD is being addressed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is not part of this area-wide proposed plan.



Actions have been taken, or are planned, to reduce contamination at each of the subsites so that the ground water meets the federal safe drinking water standards. The area-wide proposed plan is intended to protect the public from exposure to ground water until safe drinking water standards are achieved at each of the subsites.

AREA-WIDE PROPOSED PLAN

EPA is proposing the following actions be taken:

- Restrict ground water use in contaminated areas, consistent with city ordinance (#3754).
- Inventory all existing ground water wells and identify wells subject to future monitoring.
- Provide alternate water supplies to homes in the contaminated area, if necessary.
- Monitor the ground water to track the movement of the contamination and identify users who may be at risk.
- Install warning signs to advise the public that the water in the area may not meet public drinking water standards.
- Prepare an annual report to evaluate the effectiveness of the actions in preventing

unacceptable exposures and, if necessary, the need for additional actions to control unacceptable exposures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The area-wide proposed plan and other site-related documents provide details of the nature and extent of contamination at the site. These documents are part of the Administrative Record, available at the following locations:

Hastings Public Library
517 West 4th Street
Hastings, Nebraska 68901

EPA Region 7
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

If you have questions about this fact sheet or need additional information regarding this site, please contact:

Diane Huffman
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 7
Office of External Programs
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, Kansas 66101
(913) 551-7003
Toll-free at 1-800-223-0425
E-mail: huffman.diane@epa.gov

